Governments regarding the setting up of two sugar mills in the cooperative or State sector in Bagpat and Sardhna Tehsils of Meerut district; and

(b) if so what steps Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI RAM PUJAN PATEL): (a) and (b) The proposals for setting up of a new sugar factory is required to be submitted by the promotors in the prescribed form with the requisite fee. No application has so far been received from the Government of Uttar Pradesh for establishment of a new sugar factory in the cooperative or State sector in Bagpat and Sardhna Tehsils of Meerut District. Applications, as and when received, would be examined in accordance with the guidelines prevailing at that time.

Inclusion of pesticides in the Essential Commodities Act

215. SHRI TALARI MANOHAR: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to include the pesticides in the Essential Commodities Act; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI RAM PUJAN PATEL): (a) and (b) Pesticides is covered by the class of commodities "Insecticides, Fungicides, Weedicides and the like" which already stands dclared as an essential commodity under the Essential Commodities Act.

Plight of poor children in the S.O.S. Village Anangpur, Faridabad

216. SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:
SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:
SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA:

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the reports which appeared in the Jansatta of April 9, and 10, 1990 describing the plight of the poor children in the S.O.S. children village, Anangpur, Faridabad;

(b) whether Government have investigated into the working of the institution, if so what are the findings

(c) what kind of tortures/atrocities were being perpetrated in its Varanasi branch and have those been stopped; and

(d) what action has been taken against the guilty persons?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND WELFARE (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d): The State Government of Haryana where the SOS Children Village is situated, and the State Government of Uttar Pradesh where the tortures are alleged to have taken place, have been asked to submit a factual report on the incidents reported in the articles which appeared in the "Jansatta" issues referred to above. The reports are still awaited.

It may also be mentioned that the father of the three children, alleged to have been tortured, Shri Rajinder Singh, Kathu Baba has also filed a writ petition in this regard, before the Supreme Court and the matter is now pending before the Supreme Court.

Theft of Cash Boxes from Integral Coach Factory at Perambur (Madras)

217. SHRI S. MADHAVAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that cash boxes were recently stolen from the Integral Coach Factory at Perambur, Madras; and

(b) if so, the amount of cash which was found stolen and further details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) An amount of Rs. 5,39,945/- was reported to have been stolen from two cash boxes on 2.4.1990. An amount of Rs. 4,78,630/- inclusive of Rs. 20,000/- in kind has since been recovered. 4 persons inclusive of 3 Railway Officials have been taken into police custody.

Problem of drinking water in villages of Andhra Pradesh

218. SHRI TALARI MANOHAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of villages in Andhra Pradesh facing drinking water problem as on date; and

(b) the steps being taken by Government to provide drinking water in these villages?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI UPENDRA NATH VERMA): (a) All the problem villages in Andhra Pradesh have been covered partially or fully with safe drinking water facilities.

(b) Schemes for partial to full coverage of villages with safe drinking water facilities are taken up under the State Sector Minimum Needs (Programme (MNP), Centrally Sponsored, Accelerated. Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP), Sub Missions and Mini Mission Project Areas under National Drinking Water Mission. About 800 villages will be covered as per action plan for 1990-91. During 1990-91, Rs. 23.01 crores and Rs. 4.76 crores have been allocated to the State Government under ARWSP and for Mini Mission Project Area districts respectively in addition to a provision of Rs. 29.50 crores under M.N.P.

Introduction of passenger trains between Bhadrachalam-Manuguru and Guntur-Macherla

219. SHRI TALARI MANOHAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to introduce two passenger trains between Bhadrachalam-Manuguru and Guntur-Macherla stations on broad-gauge in South Central Railway;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when these trains are likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (c) One pair of passenger trains is proposed to be introduced shortly between Bhadrachalam Road and Manuguru. Two pairs of passengers trains between Guntur and Macherla have been introduced with effect from 1.5.1990.

220. [*Transferred to the 14th May, 1990.*]

Diversion of subsidy on fertilizers

221. SHRI KAPIL VERMA:
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:
SHRIMATI KAILASHPATI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering diversion of subsidy given on fertilizers as a measure of strengthening agricultural infrastructure; if so, the reasons therefor; and

(b) what is the target of food-grains production fixed for 1989-90?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR): (a) Suggestions have been received that a part of the subsidy on fertiliser prices, given to manufacturers, may be utilised for st-